The Adventures of SIGMAN

On Tue, Oct 10, 2017 at 8:01 AM, David Blackledge wrote: I was finally able to figure out how to find and scan a few items of interest. One of them I added notations on the PDF to explain it. Hopefully that comes through. Some of this might not be of interest, but they were handy and easy enough to scan. The USWEST grant, Tricia was part of the team with Doug Gillis. This scanner doesn't automatically run them through OCR, so it's just pages of pictures, I guess. -- http://David.Blackledge.com EnterWebz.tv: my apps for your TiVo feed your bumper: Stickers.HaveTo.Work

I haven't yet found my actual philosophy document (I have a lot of stuff to slowly go through), but I know in that I quote Wombo from this conversation. The good news is I know how to use the sheet feeder on my scanner, now, so I can crank out those PDFs pretty easily for things that are just loose paper. I scanned Tricia's thesis at a 300 DPS, the rest were at 200. I think I'll stick to at least 300 for anything with pictures from now on. I plan to scan in Tricia's old Astronomy 101 report on stone hinge which survived her fire, but that one has some delicately taped pictures I'll have to be careful with.

- Google didn't like the last version (thought it was spam or a virus), so I moved the attachments to Google Drive. Let's see if it works this way.
    David - BBS Philosophizing and Silliness as Sig...
    David - C=64 and Amiga Art printouts - with not...
    Tricia's Masters Thesis (no appendices).PDF
    Tricia - Electronic Art Museum - Zuni USWEST Gr...
    Tricia - Media Literacy NBC and Magazine.PDF
    Tricia - NMMLP Bob McCannon letters.PDF

Two questions, quick ones: Did you ever discover the actual identity of Wombo the Sane? or Flaming Arrow? or ??? did any of them turn out to me people you actually knew?

I would also really appreciate an intro paragraph to your philosophical discussions with Wombo and associates - was this on a Bulletin Board? This was March 1990 so you had just turned 16 yrs, correct? was it all typed in on a Commodore 64? I want something to recall the early days of personal computing, when it was more of a hobby than a business.

I regularly visited probably 5-10 BBS's around Albuquerque (and suburbs). I was an assistant sysadmin on at least one of the Commodore ones and would make PETSCII art intro screens for it for different seasons, including a great April Fools day one that "interrupted" the display of the picture and pretended to be the sysadmin chatting with whoever connected, doing canned responses when they hit "enter" after typing their chat. Another I frequented ('The Electronic Bonfire") was run by a guy (Matt Rouse) who I later accidentally became real-life friends with at NMSU while he was there - discovering our other connection some time later. He is an odd

duck (including Internet fame from selling his middle name on e-bay) and now is independently wealthy because one of his odd ideas worked out really well. Some of my C=64 stuff (likely including a lot of documents and early programming) is probably lost forever because I lent a drive and disks to him for some reason and he apparently lost it all in a move. He tends to try to erase himself from the Internet occasionally - the only remnant he has kept visible lately is: http://foolsday.com/ with just a short story that probably explains his attitude about life.

I know I met a few (if not most) of those people in person, including **Wombo the Sane**, but I didn't know them previously outside of the BBS's. I know Wombo was about my age (16), some others were much older. Another guy was much older and somebody (maybe Wombo?) and I hung out with him a few times where he mentioned he can't get a job with the government because he had gotten in to trouble for hacking a long time ago. Big Eric and his siblings and such lived in an apartment near Tramway and Cloud View. Most of them had some issue where they were overweight and had hearing issues. Big Eric was completely deaf and probably 5 years older than me. BBS's were a nice outlet for him. I was good friends with the sister (a year or two older than me) for a while, too. I visited the BBS's on my Commodore 64 which is why my text is only 40 columns wide in printouts while most of the others were wider. I used modems ranging from 300 baud (about the same speed as fast typing) to eventually (I think) 19.2k baud.

The girl I took to the winter ball (Nicole Waits) was also a good friend from the BBS's. She and several others from BBS's came to our wedding.